

services in return. This GAO study will help us to have a better picture of the services that are being provided and what needs to be done to improve these important programs, and I look forward to reviewing it.

We should honor America's brave veterans and their families not only on Veterans Day, but throughout the year. As we reflect upon the meaning of this day, let us keep all of our veterans and their families in our thoughts. These men and women are examples of the best that our country has to offer, and they deserve our support both during times of conflict and after the battles have ended and our troops have come home.

JIM MARKS

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to pay tribute to Jim Marks for his many years of dedicated public service at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as he prepares to take up an eminent new position as senior vice president and director of the Public Health Group and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Dr. Marks is a pediatrician and former Assistant Surgeon General who began his career more than 20 years ago at the CDC. He has worked effectively in the areas of birth defects prevention, reproductive health, nutrition, and health promotion and education, and rose through the ranks at CDC to a position of renown as one of America's leading experts on disease prevention. He was named director of the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion in 1995, and this year he became the acting director of the CDC's Coordinating Center for Health Information and Service.

Dr. Marks has significantly improved public health through his leadership on critical health issues facing the Nation. He was instrumental in achieving the most impressive recent accomplishment in tobacco control and prevention: The decline in adolescent smoking after nearly a decade of rising rates of smoking in the 1990s. Under Dr. Marks' direction, CDC increased its commitment to reduce and prevent smoking, and transformed a piecemeal State-by-State approach into a true national effort. CDC developed standards for best practices and created the National Tobacco Control Program, which provides funds and technical support to State health departments. Under his leadership, 4 Surgeon General reports were released that highlight the full scope of tobacco-related deaths and disease. As a result of these efforts, cigarette sales dropped and States achieved a reduction in tobacco-related deaths from both lung cancer and heart disease. The CDC also now works closely with the World Health Organization to conduct the Global Youth Tobacco Survey, which is active in more than 160 countries and will be invaluable in developing the first international public health treaty.

On cancer, Dr. Marks has helped spearhead efforts to prevent cancer and promote early detection. Under his direction and with the support of Congress, the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control has grown from approximately \$123 million to over \$313 million.

Several specific accomplishments under Dr. Marks' leadership are worth mentioning. The National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program has helped uninsured and underinsured women obtain lifesaving screening and diagnostic testing for early detection. The program has achieved nearly 5 million screenings, and diagnosed 17,000 breast cancers, 61,000 precancerous cervical lesions, and 1,100 cervical cancers.

The National Program of Cancer Registries has been expanded to cover 96 percent of the Nation's population. The information gathered by the program is important for tracing cancer patterns and monitoring cancer trends. It guided State planning and State evaluation of cancer control programs and helps States to set priorities. It is also useful in planning clinical research and research on health and on epidemics. The data contributed as well to producing the official Federal report, "U.S. Cancer Statistics: 2000 Incidence."

The National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program was developed and has been expanded to 61 programs in States, territories and tribes, enabling local health agencies to establish broad-based cancer control coalitions.

Last year, under Dr. Marks, the plan called "A National Action Plan for Cancer Survivorship: Advancing Public Health Strategies" was developed in collaboration with the Lance Armstrong Foundation and national experts in cancer survivorship and public health. The Action Plan charts a course to enable the public health community to focus more effectively on cancer survivorship and on improving the quality of life for survivors.

In addition, Dr. Marks has emphasized science-based nutrition and physical activity as part of a greater effort to deal with the current epidemic of obesity in our Nation. He enthusiastically embraced the idea of a unique CDC partnership with the world of commercial youth marketing, which led to the so-called VERB Campaign, to move American youth off the couch and into healthy activities. The VERB campaign is a "for kids/by kids" voice to reach youth between the ages of 9 and 13 with "cool" messages to discover the fun of being physically active—and do it "anywhere, anytime, and any way." As a result, after 1 year, 74 percent of this youth now recognize and like the VERB brand.

Dr. Marks has been an outstanding leader on the major public health issues of our time. His pioneering work has improved the health of communities across the Nation and improved the quality of life for countless fami-

lies and children. His strong commitment and wise counsel have educated all of us in Congress. I wish him well, and I look forward to his continuing leadership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

THE DEATH OF JANE E. MITCHELL

• Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I wish to honor the life of a truly great woman, Jane E. Mitchell. She passed away on Saturday, November 13, after 83 years of standing up for the rights of others. Her impact on the State of Delaware is profound, and her spirit everlasting.

Many in Delaware know Jane Mitchell as the wife of Littleton "Lit" Mitchell, Delaware's first African-American lawyer and a remarkable force in the civil rights movement. With all of his astounding accomplishments, though, Lit never made a decision without talking it over with Jane. She may not have had his public profile, but she certainly knew the intricacies of the issues and just how much was at stake.

Far beyond her role as the wife of an influential man, Jane Mitchell was an extraordinary person in her own right. Her life is a story of achievement—each one greater than the last. In her nursing career, Jane began making history by being the first African-American at Delaware State Hospital to treat both black and white patients. Her career led her to become the first African-American nursing director in the State, and she was eventually the president of the State Board of Nursing and vice-president of the Delaware Nurses Association before her retirement.

After retiring, Jane Mitchell devoted her life to volunteering. Her causes were numerous, and she was passionately committed to each. She continued her work in medicine and civil rights, and became a powerful voice in the fight to improve the treatment of the mentally ill. In 1998, a building was erected in her name at the Delaware Psychiatric Center.

Jane E. Mitchell has been described as a pioneer, a trailblazer and a heroine. She devoted her life to promoting the welfare of others. Whether it was in her role as nurse, advocate, volunteer or wife and mother, Jane never wavered in her enthusiasm for doing good and making a difference. I am saddened by her passing, yet she continues to inspire me. Jane Mitchell's legacy is great, and I am honored to recognize her today. •

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

JENNIFER STEENSEN FIELD OF DREAMS THERAPEUTIC RIDING PROGRAM

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in saluting

the Jennifer Steensen Field of Dreams Therapeutic Riding Program of Granger, IO. This outstanding program provides therapeutic riding and driving programs for individuals with physical and mental disabilities and children in at-risk situations.

The program has provided over 2000 hours of horseback riding lessons to clients aged two to 80 with disabilities that include cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, spinal bifida, blindness, ADHD, learning disabilities and brain injury. On average, 80 individuals participate in this program every year.

I would like to pay tribute to the dedicated volunteers who make this program successful. One such individual is Lisa Quam, who volunteers once a week at the stables to share her laughter and love of horses with the riders. Matthew Vujnovich of Des Moines is one of the many clients who have benefited from the time and talents of the program's volunteers. Matthew has autism and Lisa's friendship and guidance with the horses has helped develop his fine motor skills, muscles and independence.

I am dedicated to the principles of the Americans with Disabilities Act: equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for millions of Americans with physical and mental disabilities. The Jennifer Steensen Field of Dreams Therapeutic Riding Program advances these principles and helps clients develop critical life-skills. I applaud their efforts and thank them for all that they have accomplished.●

ZACH HEBL'S ACHIEVEMENT ON BEHALF OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, as we all know, this is an election year. Whether you are a Democrat or a Republican, both parties recognize the importance of civic engagement this year. That is why I want to recognize the efforts of Zach Hebl, an Eagle Scout from Cedar Township, IA. When 15-year-old Zach learned that his parents' polling location was not accessible to people with disabilities, he coordinated an effort to construct a sidewalk, parking lot, and wooden access ramp at Cedar Township Hall, a Johnson county polling location, so that everyone in his precinct had an equal opportunity to cast their ballot.

Zach's achievement is particularly important because as of September of 2003, there were approximately 300 precincts in Iowa that did not meet the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Without renovation, these locations will shut down in 2006 and close their doors to voters. Thanks to Zach, Cedar Township Hall was the first site to be removed from this list. I would like to print in the RECORD this article from the Cedar Rapids Gazette which describes Zach's project in great detail.

The article follows:

Cedar Rapids Gazette, August 26, 2003:

Fifteen-year-old Zach Hebl didn't want to see the one-room schoolhouse become just a symbol of the past.

The old schoolhouse, which closed in the 1950s, has served as the township's polling place for at least 60 years but was in danger of no longer being an allowable voting site because it failed to meet Americans With Disabilities Act, or ADA, requirements.

That's when Hebl got the idea to bring the old building up to current standards by building a ramp and deck onto the building.

"I've always figured I could be voting here one day and wanted to do something so that I could do that," said Hebl, who lives on a farm in Cedar Township about two miles south of the schoolhouse.

Hebl began working on the project, which he will use as an Eagle Scout project, in mid-April. He developed plans for multiple ramps and made a presentation to the Cedar Township Board of Trustees. He researched the ADA requirements and prepared cost estimates. By mid-July, both the Scouts and trustees approved the project.

"We were glad somebody came along to take this project over," said Don Brannaman, a trustee who has lived in Cedar Township for 55 years. "We were going to have to find a way to do this."

Hebl worked with his Eagle Scout adviser, Jim Jacob, 51, a structural engineer with Van Winkle-Jacob Engineering in Coralville, to conduct site elevations and choose the best design.

"This building has got a lot of significance," said Jacob, who lives in Cedar Township and has voted at the building since 1983. "If people couldn't vote here, nobody would take care of the building, and it would fall into disrepair."

On Saturday, it was evident many residents didn't want that to happen. A group of 25 kids, mostly fellow members of Troop 120, and 19 adults arrived at the job site to help build the 24-foot-long ramp and deck. Installation of the posts began Friday, and the final touch on the project, a large concrete parking slab and sidewalk to the ramp, will be installed in September.

"We wouldn't want to vote anyplace else," said Loretta Basten, 58, who attended the one-room schoolhouse until third grade when it closed in the 1950s. She was bringing snacks to the site.

"There are students who go to college and come back just so they can cast a ballot here," Basten said.

In August, Chet Culver, Secretary of the State of Iowa, and I had the privilege of attending a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new polling place. There to support Zach were his parents, Boy Scout Troop 120, and many members of the community. It was a proud moment for Cedar Township as Zach cut that ribbon. He is a wonderful example of how one person can truly impact a community simply by acting upon an idea.

As the author of the ADA, I am always glad to see progress toward its four great goals—equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities. Zach's work is critical to ensuring equality in voting and full participation in our democratic system, which formerly was not available to the people in his County and still is not available for many Iowans. Even though Zach is too young to vote, he serves as a role

model to Eagle Scouts and young people across the country. He proves that one person can make a tremendous difference.●

HONORING LT. COLONEL JOHN MCCANCE, USAF

● Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Colonel John McCance, who will complete his 3-year tour of duty with the United States Air Force's Office of Legislative Affairs at the end of this year.

Most people don't know that our services have liaison offices within Congress. Even many servicemembers don't know these offices exist. And, yet, they are a vital link between the United States Senate and the Department of Defense.

Liaison officers are chosen because of their wealth of knowledge, ability to handle a pressure-packed environment with high-maintenance staffers, and their discernment in making tough decisions. They generally have significant experience and a long track record of outstanding performance. Simply put, Service liaisons are the best of the best.

The Air Force has been fortunate to have Lt. Colonel John McCance as a vital member of its liaison team here in the Senate. He has demonstrated the superior caliber and quality of Air Force officers with which we are all familiar. I know I speak for many of my fellow Members in expressing our profound regret at his departure. Yet I know that the Air Force Reserve has many good things planned for John and that our country will surely benefit from his experience in his future assignments.

On behalf of the Senate, I thank John McCance for his service to the Nation and to the United States Air Force Reserve, and I thank his wife, Wendy, and his daughters, Lauren and Katie, for their steadfast support while he fulfilled this essential duty. We in the U.S. Senate, and I personally, wish them all the best as Lt. Colonel McCance returns to his civilian career and tackles new challenges.●

TRIBUTE TO WAYNE BERRY

● Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to take this opportunity to honor Wayne Berry from Dallas, TX, as he celebrates his 50th anniversary working for Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control and its predecessor companies on November 3, 2004.

In 1954, at the age of 24, Mr. Berry began his career with Lockheed Martin as a machinist from Temco Electronics and Missiles. After graduating from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1968, he joined the Environmental Test Lab as an Environmental Test Technician. Over the next 38 years, Mr. Berry contributed significantly to the growth of the Environmental Test Lab and, for the past 10 years, he has been assigned responsibilities as Quality Engineering Project Manager.